

the exception of their gritty 53–47 title defense against Stanford, by double digits. In so doing, the University of Connecticut Women's team has eclipsed the previous record of 70 wins in a row, held by the Huskies since 2003.

Winning 78 games in a row in any sport is no small feat, and it takes more than talent to accomplish. Such a record takes perseverance, sacrifice, and a commitment to the team ideal, and the women of UConn have shown each in surpassing measure.

These young athletes are not role models to generations of women because they are winners—they are winners because they are role models. They have shown that, through hard work and dedication to a common goal, anything is possible. I congratulate them on two years of amazing victories, and I look forward to seeing them in action again next season.

HONORING PIEDAD AYALA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Piedad Ayala upon receiving the "Member of the Year Award" by the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Ayala will be honored at the twenty-sixth annual State of the Hispanic Chamber Gala to be held on Friday, March 12, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Piedad Ayala has worked with the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce through his businesses and his newly formed organization, Water for All. Since 1976, Mr. Ayala has been working with the agriculture community and is currently the CEO of Ayala Enterprises, Ayala Corporation, Ayala Farm Inc. specializing in farm management, farm labor, agricultural farming and livestock. He is also the CEO of Big Daddy Portable Toilets Inc. and Azteca Furniture.

With a great passion for the farmers of the Central San Joaquin Valley, Mr. Ayala has always been involved with promoting legislation to support the area. Recently, Mr. Ayala created "Water for All", an organization that supports the development of additional water resources in California. With Mr. Ayala's strong leadership and partnership with the California Latino Water Coalition, the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Fresno County Farm Bureau, he has assisted in organizing multiple water rallies, including the March for Water held in 2009.

Mr. Ayala is a great supporter of business and education. Through his various businesses and the organizations that he works with, he has become a well known community activist, particularly in regard to water.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Piedad Ayala upon being awarded the "Member of the Year Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Ayala many years of continued success.

CONGRATULATING BEVERLY
HISCOX, HONOREE OF THE
WILKES UNIVERSITY ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION AND ITS SCHOLAR-
SHIP FUND

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Beverly Blakeslee Hiscox, who is being honored by the Wilkes University Alumni Association and its Scholarship Fund for extraordinary service over many years.

Born in Hanover Township in 1932, Beverly graduated from E. L. Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre and attended Wilkes College.

Mrs. Hiscox has served Wilkes University in many roles including as president of the Alumni Association, member of the Board of Trustees, an active member of the Advisory Board of the Creative Writing Program, and she continues as Trustee Emerita.

Her dedication to the Wilkes-Barre community does not stop with Wilkes University. Her commitments over the years have included 20 years as a member of the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital Auxiliary, an early organizer of the Lawyers' Wives, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

She has been involved with the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic since its inception in 1972, serving on its Board of Directors and as president of the Board. She is also a member of the Westmoreland Club.

Ordained as an elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre, she was also active in the Women's Association of the church for many years. She has served on the Session of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre as an elder.

Mrs. Hiscox married attorney Harry Hiscox in 1956. They had five children: David, a lawyer in practice with his father; Richard, a family practice physician; Steven, president and CEO of Automotive Training Center, the top professional institution of its kind in the nation; Susan, a school psychologist in New York and Carol, an elementary school teacher in Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. and Mrs. Hiscox also have 10 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mrs. Hiscox on this auspicious occasion. Her exemplary community service is inspirational and has earned her widespread respect and admiration throughout north-eastern Pennsylvania.

HONORING CAPTAIN ROBERT R.
O'BRIEN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor CAPT Robert R. O'Brien, Commander of the United States Coast Guard Sector New York. On April 6th of this year Captain O'Brien celebrated the anniversary of his enlistment in the Coast Guard in 1970.

During Captain O'Brien's 40 consecutive years of brave service he rose from an enlisted member to commander of the Coast Guard's largest operations unit.

Captain O'Brien enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1970 at the rank of seaman apprentice. In 1976 he was assigned as Officer-in-Charge of the USCGC Blackberry at Oak Island, North Carolina. In 1978 he was assigned to St. Simon's Island, Georgia, and then in 1979 he was promoted again to Chief Boatswain's Mate on the largest Aids to Navigation Team in the Atlantic Area. In 1980 he was named Chief Warrant Officer of the Aids to Navigation Team on the Long Island Sound.

In 1983 Captain O'Brien continued his accelerated rise through the ranks, receiving his commission as a Lieutenant. Over the next several years he was assigned to various posts around the country including the Marine Safety Office in Galveston, Texas; Supervisor of the Marine Safety Detachment in Marietta, Ohio; the Marine Safety Office in Detroit, Michigan; the Fifth Coast Guard District Office in Portsmouth, Virginia, and the Marine Safety Office in Hampton Roads, Virginia. In 1999 Captain O'Brien was promoted to Commanding Officer of the Marine Safety Office in Memphis, Tennessee. In 2002 he left for Washington, DC, to serve as the Coast Guard Liaison to Navy's Military Sealift Command where he participated as an advisor in weekly senior staff meetings at Coast Guard headquarters. In 2003 he was promptly promoted again to Captain and assumed command of the Marine Safety Office in Hampton Roads. In July 2005 he was promoted one final time to his current position as Commander of the Sector Hampton Roads.

His rise from an enlisted service member at the lowest rank to his senior position is an increasingly rare and difficult feat in the United States armed services. Throughout his career Captain O'Brien has been recognized for his excellent service, receiving the Meritorious Service Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon, and three Coast Guard Good Conduct Medals. Captain O'Brien's dedication to service is an example for all Americans.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in honoring CAPT Robert O'Brien for his brave service to our country, as well as congratulate him for completing his 40th consecutive year in the United States Coast Guard, and wish him the best as Captain O'Brien will begin in October of this year a most well-deserved retirement.

HONORING OLYMPIC SPEED-
SKATERS JOHN ROBERT "J.R."
CELSKI AND APOLO ANTON
OHNO

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, this year's Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver were an incredible display of America's finest athletes representing our country. It is my great privilege to commend two of these athletes from the great State of Washington.